

Corps responds to final General Accounting Office report on the Delaware River Main Channel Deepening Project

Philadelphia (June 10, 2002)---As recommended by the General Accounting Office in its final report on the Delaware River Main Channel Deepening project, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers is conducting a comprehensive reanalysis to address uncertainties about the project's economics. The same report found that the Corps has followed the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) process and has largely addressed the environmental effects of the project.

The reanalysis will give decision makers additional information on which to determine the future of the Delaware River Channel Deepening Project. The Corps agrees with GAO that errors and miscalculations were made in the 1998 limited reevaluation of the project and that some date back to the original 1992 study. However, there have been significant changes due to port dynamics and commodity movements in the region since then. For example, new commodities, such as steel, were not considered in the Corps previous economic analysis.

For further information on the U.S. Army's response to the GAO and the Delaware River Main Channel Deepening project, visit the Corps' Philadelphia District website at <http://www.nap.usace.army.mil>. The GAO report is available at <http://www.gao.gov/new.items/d02604.pdf>